Applicant   :   Robert L. Stone
Serial No.   :   10/720,581
Page   :   5

Remarks:

The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action dated September 7, 2006.

Claims 1-13 and 27 are pending in the application. Claims 14-26 have been canceled herein without prejudice and new claim 27 has been added. The new claim is fully supported in the specification and drawings as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

ALLOWED AND ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

Claims 1-13 are allowed. New claim 27 depends from allowed independent claim 1 such that claim 27 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 19-26 were indicated as being directed toward allowable subject matter and as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Meyer, U.S. Publication No. US 2001/0047922. Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer, in view of Gottlieb et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,283,304.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under §103(a). However, in order to expedite prosecution and allowance of the claims, and without acquiescing in the rejection in any way, Applicant has canceled claims 14-26 without prejudice, such that the subject matter of these claims may be pursued in a continuation application in the future.

Applicant   :   Robert L. Stone
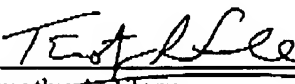Serial No.   :   10/720,581
Page   :   6

Allowed claims 1-13 and new dependent claim 27 are pending in the application. Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly and respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT L. STONE

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

Date: November 30, 2006.

Timothy A. Flory
Registration No. 42 540
2851 Charlevoix Drive, S.E., Suite 207
P.O. Box 888695
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49588-8695
(616) 975-5500

STE03 P-649A
TAF:ell